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SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Will the Government enforce the same principle in respect of recognition of trade unions by ascertaining the opinion of the majority of the workers? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Hon. Members are aware that at present there is no rule which will compel any management to recognize any union. But in the new Industrial Relations Bill on the anvil at Delhi, there is a method of recognition and this method of electing the Works Committee is the first step in that direction."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" I would like to point out to the Hon. Minister that Labour is a concurrent subject irrespective of the fact whether the Central Government are contemplating legislation or not. May I therefore ask the Hon. Minister whether this Government are prepared to enforce this principle independently of the Government of India? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The House is aware that the Central Government are already bringing in a comprehensive legislation affecting all the States in this matter. This Government think that at this state it will be unnecessary to bring a separate legislation because what the Centre brings will cover the requirements of this State."

Supply of bedsheets in the General Hospital, Madras.

* 44 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that new patients on admission in general wards in the Government General Hospital, Madras, are not supplied with fresh bedsheets and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The assumption underlying the question is not true."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that new patients are denied admission into the hospital for want of beds, not to talk of bedsheets? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This hospital, like every other hospital, is admitting many more patients than there are beds sanctioned for the purpose."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the bedsheets are sterilized and cleaned before they are supplied to the patients in general wards? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, there is a steam laundry also."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is it a fact that the new patients who are admitted are made to lie on the verandahs exposed to the atmosphere for want of sanction of more beds? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" As I have already said, many more patients are admitted than we can provide for according to the sanctioned bed strength and some of them have necessarily to be provided beds on the floor."

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SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :— " Bed strength ను ఎక్కువచేయటానికి ఏమైనా చర్యలు తీసుకుంటున్నారా? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. Proposals are under consideration and additional accommodation is being provided for."

Harijan Collectors in the State.

* 45 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state how many Harijans have been appointed as Collectors in the State during the year 1952–53?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" Sri G. E. Muthirulandi belonging to the Scheduled Caste was appointed as Collector during 1952–53. Including this officer, there are at present six officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes holding appointments in the grade of Collector."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether any Collector belonging to the Harijan community retired from service? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question relates to recruitment. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" What is the total number of officers of the grade of Collectors? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I expected this supplementary question and tried to find out whether the particulars have been furnished in this file. I am sorry I have not got the information at present."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" How many of these officers have been promoted from the rank of Deputy Collectors? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" All of them have been promoted from the rank of Deputy Collectors."

SRI Y. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" What is the principle on which the appointment of Collectors is made? Is it on merit, seniority, integrity or communal representation? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" All these are taken into consideration in making promotions."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" In view of the fact that there are a good many Harijan candidates with suitable qualifications, educational and otherwise, and in view of the fact that the Harijan community has not been represented in the services proportionate to their population in this State, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to move this Government to increase the quota of reservation for Harijans in the grades of Collectors and Deputy Collectors? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, a separate question may be put."